ness of his position led him on one occasion to compare his country to Christ on the ground that 'JaParL was ready to be crucified for her opinions, and risk incurring the severest sanctions of the League rather than alter her standpoint in Geneva.' As a Calvary, League sanctions, even the severest, are not impressive. The Twelve were succeeded by the Nineteen, the Nineteen by the Nine, and dead Briand by Living Hyrnans, a Belgian, and still it went on; in Geneva, words, in distant China, deeds —Shanghai attacked, even the International Settlement endangered, and Manchuria vanishing to reappear faintly disguised as Manchukuo, whose sovereign, Mr. Henry Pu-yi, former Manchu Emperor, had been kidnapped in Peking and set reluctantly upon his new throne. Before recommendations could be made, it was decided, all the relevant facts must be made available. Who knew but that Mr. Matsuoka might be right, and Japan cruelly wronged ? At any rate, as Sir John Simon pointed out several times, the proper judicial attitude was to suspend judgment until all the circumstances of the case were known. "With relief, a decision was taken to appoint a Commission of Enquiry and await its findings. Difficulty was experienced in securing a suitable chairman; but after several refusals, Lord Lytton consented to act, and the Commission set off for the scene of its labours, prevented, owing to the objections

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the contrary, Japan's case was sympathetically stated by Conservative newspapers in England (for instance, *The Times*—*The Japanese plan is undoubtedly intended to provide Manchuria with an efficient Government and an honest

financial administration.... And it would probably be erroneous to suppose • that the scheme is a deliberate attempt to annex Manchuria'); and for a time a large section of the French Press was enthusiastically pro-Japanese, though in this case the suddenness and thoroughness of the conversion suggested financial stimulation. An indication of a not uncommon attitude of mind is given by this remarkable assertion, contained in a letter published on *The Times* leader-page shortly after a protracted bombardment of a Shanghai residential suburb by Japanese planes—'Such loss of life as has occurred among the Chinese civilian population (many of whom were soldiers in disguise) has been unavoidable or accidental, and, we are convinced, is regretted by no one more than the Japanese.'